



HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NATIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK, MAY 14-20

As part of a national effort to recognize the accomplishments of the men and women who dedicate their lives to saving the lives of others, this week, May 14 – 20, 2006, has been designated as the 33rd National Emergency Medical Services Week by the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP).

Each day, 24 hours a day, seven days a week area residents benefit from the knowledge and skills of individuals who are trained in emergency life-saving techniques.

In April 1971, the City of Houston declared that the provision of emergency ambulance service was a governmental function to be performed by the Houston Fire Department. Commemorating 35 years of service, this year, 2006, Houston's EMS is recognized worldwide as a leader in injury care.

Today, Houston's emergency responders receive an additional level of training: technical training to respond to acts of terrorism and incidents with potential weapons of mass destruction. Houston's EMS responders will be among the first on the scene should such an emergency occur.

Events this week:

- The Houston Fire Museum is thanking Firefighters, First Responders, EMT's and Paramedics this week with a special treat at the Museum, 2403 Milam.
- The Houston Astros will be honoring EMS during their game on May 17, 2006. A special presentation and proclamation presentation will be held with members of the HFD and Council member Adrian Garcia.
- HFD Health Fair open to the public on Saturday, May 20, 2006 from 10am to 3pm at Fire Station 46, 3902 Corder at Scott. There will be free screenings; literature and the Blue Cross Blue Shield Care Van will be giving free childhood immunizations.